

A Right to Kidnap?

How can President Bush violate international law by ordering abductions in other countries and have the power to authorize action inconsistent with the U.N. Charter, even order the FBI to make arrests in other countries in violation of their laws, without granting the identical rights and powers to all other heads of state, like Saddam Hussein ["U.S. 'Power' on Abductions Detailed," Aug. 14]?

Does not the Bush administration's claimed right to kidnap or arrest those it regards as "terrorists" or "drug-traffickers" in other countries give other countries the same rights within the United States?

Has the administration not in fact validated and justified the taking of American hostages in other countries, as Iran did? And hasn't it given legal sanction to violation of our laws against murder to the murders in the United States by Libya and Chile?

HAROLD WEISBERG

Frederick

Dear Joe,

8/27/91

The Washington Post used the letter of which I do not recall sending a copy, although I might have, and I remain dumbfounded at the total absence of editorial comment by the Post or on the oped page once this was formally stated as US policy. It carries being gendarme to the world a step farther. Does it not say much about what has happened to us in the last dozen years, that this radical departure from law and Constitution could be formally stated as national policy and that it would then be greeted by silence. Of course I do not know that there was no comment in Congress. But I heard none and heard of none on radio and TV and saw nothing in the local of DC papers. ...I've heard from only two people of the many who get the Post and know me and I'd have thought that most of them would feel as I do about this. And, of course, what

it represents. ... In any event, it seems apparent that if I had not taken the few moments this letter took there would not have been any interpretation or comment in the Post for its readers.... That was a big favor, the little thing of calling my sister Alma. Not only did it spare Lil questioning when she wanted none, Alma appreciated it very much. She phoned Sunday when Gloria, Marvin, their son Jon and his son Alexi were here, with a cousin you may not recall, as of my days in Wilmington, Sylvia Goldberg. She was related through one of her parents to the ~~Riaz~~ Balicks, who you do know. She and her sister changed their name back to what it was before the immigration people decided to change it to something more usual. It was and became Golodner. We had a nice dinner party at the restaurant of our Korean friends. Alma phoned while they were her so the cordless phone took quite a trip, returning with a bucket of peaches I'd assumed the fungi, bugs and/or animals got and, entirely unsprayed and unfertilized, they were perfect. Go figure, if you remember that phrase of our youth.... But I began with a point I lost: it need not be a waste of time writing to papers despite the odds against publication. Taking the time is a manifestation of belief in representative society, despite the abuses and corruption of it, and an effort to help it to work as it should. And if nobody tries....

Harold

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
2/20/76

Mr. Michael J. Levy
1418 21 St., NW
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Dear Mickey,

I'm sorry we have not been able to get together. Travel is not easy for me now but on each of my last two trips to DC Jim Meser either spoke to you or tried. I presume he didn't get you by the night of 2/17 because you did not meet me where I said I'd be early the next morning.

I don't know when I'll be there again but Jim will.

There really is nothing I can do about the fostered mythologies. Sometimes they get annoying enough for me to react but mostly I ignore them. As I remember it you phoned when I was off on a rather intensive trip for one with my current medical problems. My wife relayed the message and I not only took it as of serious purpose but appreciate it. That was mid-December. While with reminding from my wife and Jim I still have no clear recollection of your earlier call, I have no doubt that you did and I blew up over something.

As of now, with all I'm into and limitations of the time I can work, my spectro/NAA interest is in a) bringing out what is still suppressed and b) perfecting the court record. On the second, including to save the law.

My own record on this is persistently misrepresented. I always offered all I got to anyone. I went public with some of what I got as soon as I got it. I went public with what is called "all" 4/25/75 at a New York City press conference. Some there made copies. Almost anybody can have copies now, as at any time earlier once I had the government firmly committed, in writing.

It is a common practise to write requests behind me, letting Jim and me bear all the cost and the great burden and picking up chips for the cost of xeroxing and then to make great claims and boasts in self-promotion. If I don't really care that much about others reusing my condoms, so to speak, I do wish they had concerns about whether or not they have holes. There are very few people who have a really good command of the material and of these judgement is not always good, especially political judgement (not in the party sense). These and those who pretend an expertise they do not have regularly louse things up. Mu dislikemof this is neither personal nor selfish as in time, if you stay with this, you'll learn.

So, if you have reason to believe ~~that~~ if when Lane started his efforts to make more self-promotions out of this and when despite all his big talk he didn't even file either of the original suits - or any - he got anything I didn't, it would be good for Jim to know for use in court. The possibility exists that you do know, what I think my wife took from your call. If not and if you don't want me to go over copies of what you have, you are perfectly welcome to go over what I have. If I have what you do not you are welcome to copies. I also have a considerable selection from scientific literature. You are welcome to make copies here for the actual cost to me if you'll do the copying. I am not supposed to stand still very long. If you want to carry the effort with the literature forward (if you have not done it on your own) it can be helpful to us in court. I have no writing plans of any kind on this. Your Gallagher interview can be very important. I do think it would be worth the time to make as complete a written record of it as you now can. Of the raw material, I think I know pretty well what was withheld because I know what has to have been done and was not given to me. I also know beyond questions what was done and is denied. This is separate from what should have been but I can't prove was. Sorry about the typos. Thanks and best, Harold Weisberg

Harold

Sub 8.25-91
Dear Harold,
Glad to see you're still kicking
up dust out there.
1694 Lanier Pl
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Michael Levy/mick